



NCTAMS PAC

The Voice

Volume 1, Issue 1

Commanding Officer: Capt. Jim Donovan

Ombudsman: Mrs. Danielle Filler

March 2007

The Captain's Voice

Aloha NCTAMS PAC Family and Friends –

Welcome to the first edition of the NCTAMS PAC Ombudsman Newsletter. As first order of business, I would like to introduce Danielle Filler as our new NCTAMS PAC Ombudsman and thank her for jumping right into the job and proposing we start this newsletter as an important path of communications from the command to its family members. I would also like to thank Pamela Courchene for serving as our Ombudsman over the past several months and agreeing to stay on and assist in this critical position.

Since this is our first newsletter I feel it is appropriate to give you a brief back-ground on NCTAMS PAC; who we are and what we do. NCTAMS PAC (that's Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific) is one of only two U.S. NCTAMS in the world. Our sister station is in Norfolk, VA. Our mission is to "provide Navy telecommunications and information services for Naval, Joint and Coalition operations in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas of responsibility". In other words, your loved ones at NCTAMS PAC are the ones folks who ensure critical communications are available to ships, submarines, aircraft and their commanders throughout the entire Pacific region.

This includes Navy units; Joint (Army, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard) as well as Coalition units (yes, we even provide communications services to units from other Nations such as Australia and Canada). Our region stretches as far west as the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean to the West coast of the United States and includes 43 countries and 17 time zones. We also have some responsibility for units in Oklahoma and Pawtuxet River, MD. These communications include services you are very familiar with such as email, chat and plain old telephones, but also consist of some of the more military-types of communications such as radio telephone and messaging. We even support the Navy with Video Teleconferencing capabilities. NCTAMS PAC consists of 1,776 Sailors and civilian employees across our region. Here on Oahu NCTAMS PAC is 653 people strong, which includes about 431 Sailors, 94 government service employees and 128 contractors.

I've had the good fortune of Commanding NCTAMS PAC for the last 19 months. Simply put, it has been the best 19 months of my 33 year Naval career. Every day, your loved ones at NCTAMS PAC continue to flawlessly provide the services I mentioned in my opening paragraph. They performed their jobs so well that they won the last Communications and Information Technology Excellence (CITE) award from our boss, Naval Network Warfare Command. This is why you will often hear me describing NCTAMS PAC as the "best NCTAMS in the world!" We also recently won the Fleet Forces Command Retention Excellence Award for Fiscal Year 2006. This indicates that NCTAMS PAC Sailors enjoy their work and are reenlisting to stay in the Navy. On a smaller scale, but no less important, we are at 152 days without a DUI at the command as I sit to write this article. I credit this achievement to a total command effort to ensure our Sailors have a plan prior to heading out on liberty and providing plenty of alternative options, such as cab cards and a listing of phone numbers to call, for those who have had too much to drink and should not drive. We value the lives of every single person at this command as well as their family members, and it is important to me that we remain committed to this important safety initiative. Our command also boasts an outstanding physical readiness program, ensuring that our Sailors comply with stringent Chief of Naval Operations requirements for staying in shape. Speaking of that, our next command Physical Fitness Assessment is coming up in April, so you can help out your spouse by ensuring he/she follows a healthy lifestyle at home by eating right and exercising often.

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Special points of interest:

- This is the command's first newsletter
- NCTAMS is starting a Family Readiness Group (FRG)
- What resources are available to you
- IA's leaving for deployment
- MWR Free Events
- New members to NCTAMS PAC

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Before closing, I would also like to mention a few things about Individual Augmentation (IA) deployments. NCTAMS PAC currently has 23 Sailors on IA deployment to places such as Iraq and Afghanistan. These deployments serve to support the Army and Marine Corp in areas where Sailors have specific skill sets, such as Information Technology. Although I fully understand the burden that these deployments put on our military families, I do not foresee the requirement for these deployments ending any time in the near future. I will promise you; however, that NCTAMS PAC will do whatever it can to support your loved one and your family during the deployment period. This newsletter provides some additional resources available to those personnel deployed or about to deploy and their families. I also encourage you to contact your spouse's chain of command for assistance you may require during their absence. If you aren't getting answers to your questions / concerns do not hesitate to call the NCTAMS PAC Ombudsman, Mrs. Filler or the NCTAMS PAC CMC, CMDCM Dollen.

In closing, after 33 years of Naval service, I could not be prouder to serve at this command. Every day I am touched by the dedication and hard work put forth by each and every Sailor and Civilian at NCTAMS PAC. This truly is "The Best NCTAMS in the World!"

Best Regards,
CAPT Jim Donovan
CO, NCTAMS PAC
Wahiawa, Hawaii
(808) 653-5344
jim.donovan@navy.mil



From left to right: CMDCM Dollen, Pam Courchene, Danielle Filler & FORCM Vandervort

Straight From the Command Master Chief

NCTAMS PAC Family and Friends,

I just wanted to add my congratulations and thanks to Danielle Filler for volunteering and being selected as the NCTAMS PAC Ombudsman. As a member of the Command Team she will represent the interests of our families and provide counsel on issues concerning their welfare. In the short amount of time Danielle has been our

Ombudsman, she has already made a positive impact on our Sailors and their families. I also wish to Thank Pam Courchene for stepping up and volunteering to serve as our Ombudsman for the last several months. She has done a superb job. I was always able to count on her sound advice and professionalism. Soon Pam and her husband will be transferring back to the mainland in the next few months and I wish them both Fair Winds and Following Seas.

One last thing, the inaugural Ombudsman Newsletter is chocked full of good information and resources, so please take the opportunity to read it. You will be glad you did.

Best Regards,

Command Master Chief
Michael Dollen





A Word From Your Ombudsman

My name is Danielle Filler; I am the newly appointed Ombudsman for NCTAMS PAC. Our other Ombudsman Pam Courchene will be helping out until she PCS's in June 2007. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or problems, I will do my best to help you. My contact information is as follows:

home phone number (808) 664-1204 , cell number (832) 746-8880 or email at nctamsombud@msn.com. **Please note that our conversations will be held in strict confidence.**

Our goal is to keep the command spouses informed of what is going on within the command and region wide. Your input is very

important to us and will make the newsletter even better, so please call or email us with any of your comments or ideas that you would like to see in future newsletters.

"I am a Navy Family Ombudsman, and I am of service to you... The Navy Family"

Family Readiness Group News

Aloha NCTAMS PAC Families! My name is Stacy Manns. I have volunteered to start up the Command's first Family Readiness Group. My husband has been stationed at NCTAMS PAC for a year and we have 3 boys. I am not only a spouse, but I am currently active duty as well. I hope that my experiences of being a Navy spouse and a service member will add some insight to the group.

The FRG is here to support the families during deployments, mentor new

family members, conduct social events and activities such as holidays and children's parties, coordinate deployment farewells and homecomings as well as assisting with sponsoring new family members to the command. As of right now we need members to help coordinate and participate in all of these activities. Generally, FRG's are used for sea duty commands, however, due to the war on terrorism we have many Sailors deployed on an Individual Augmentation. We need

to stay prepared at all times to support each other because we never know if our spouse will be called to serve.

Your help and ideas are greatly needed. Please become a member of our FRG group and help to support our sailors and their families! Thank you and hope to hear from you.

Stacy Manns contact information:
For non-emergencies, please call before 9 pm.

Home number- (808) 689-0757

Cell Phone Number- (808) 294-0039

Email Address-nctamsfrg@yahoo.com

Volunteers Needed

I would like to start a phone list for emergency cases. For example: If someone calls needing a ride to their doctors' appointment because their car has broken down. I would like to have a volunteer list to be able to call somebody that could give this person a ride, possibly baby-sit, or whatever the

situation may be. If you are interested in being on a volunteer list please call Danielle Filler at 808-664-1204 or email at nctamsombud@msn.com. This is a great way to help out other Navy Spouses, plus you'll never know when you may need help.



Individual Augmentee (IA) Section

Some of you may be wondering what is an IA? A sailor going on an IA is being sent to assist or augment a command when needed. Most sailors are going TAD (temporarily assigned to duty) to Iraq, Africa or Afghanistan. They can be gone for as long as a year at a time. While on TAD the sailor is still assigned to their Navy command and that is where they should go for questions about orders or other military questions. While a sailor is deployed spouses can look to the commands readiness group for support. The Ombudsman is also available to you.



IA Deployments



A list of sailors currently on an IA assignment:

ET1 Christopher Combs
LTJG Tracey Rhone
IT2 Amanda Dawson
ET2 Steven Sharrard
ET1 Torrey Willett
ITCM Paul Hileman
IT1 Brian Erb
IT2 Brian Rockwell
IT3 Colby Roberts
IT3 Donald Clayton
ET2 Christopher Kuznicki

IT3 Glen Gilmore
LT David Purkiss
ITC George Donley
IT1 Shane Taft
IT2 Derek Martin
ITSC Darin Long
ET2 Louis Roulain
IT1 Carrie Tudor
IT1 Chad Villines
ETC Paul Nienow
ET2 Jamie Gallaway

February
CWO3 Jacqueline Clifton
IT3 Jeremy Erickson
IT2 Steve Song
IT1 Charles Smith

March
LT David Perry
OS2 Heather Meigs

Thank you for your dedication
and service.

Individual Augmentee Connection

Who: For all Individual Augmentees (IAs) and their families

What: Meet regularly to...

Discover community resources,
Receive valuable information,
Meet other IA families,
And much...much more!

When: Tuesday, April 3rd at 11:00 a.m. **OR** 6:00 p.m.

Call to register for this opportunity to get connected!



The
Fleet & Family Support
Center

Moanalua Navy Services Center
4827 Bougainville Drive Honolulu,
Hawaii www.Qreatlifehawaii.com
474-1999

Introducing

MWR Information

There is so much happening right now that is FREE, FUN and EXCITING! Click on the attached link to view information on items such as:

- It's the **MWR Super Garage Sale and Craft Fair** scheduled for **March 3rd!**
- **FREE ALL HEADLINER Comedy show** Presented by

AT&T and Navy Entertainment at Beeman Center, March 30th at 8PM. Performers include: Jesse Joyce, Keith Alberstadt, John Bizarre and Tom Foss.

- **Springfest** - Month of the Military Child Celebration April 21st from 2pm-5pm at Ward Field.

- **Ford Island Bridge Run.** Starts at 7am, be sure to register by March 26th.
- Look for another **Concert in the Park** to be held Friday, May 25th at 6:30pm.

Check here for more information:
www.greatlifehawaii.com

Tax Time Again

The tax center in Pearl Harbor is ready to help you file your 2006 income tax returns. The tax centers hours of operation currently are:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 0900 - 1600
Tuesday/Thursday: 1300 - 1800
Saturday: 0900 - 1200

The tax center is in RM 11 in

building 679, bottom floor. It is a **FREE** service provided to Military Service Members and their families.

For most returns they will be able to take walk ins or appointments during any of the posted hours. They will be able to take more advanced/complicated returns on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The contact number for appointments is 808-473-1771 starting one hour before the posted hours of operation until the end of the day.



"Here's to the Heroes"

In February 2005, Anheuser-Busch launched "Here's to the Heroes" to acknowledge the service of military men and women and the sacrifices made by their families. The parks are proud to extend the offer through 2007.

"Here's to the Heroes" provides a single day's free admission to any one Sea World or Busch Gardens park, Sesame Place, Adventure Island or Water Country USA for the service member and as many as three direct dependents.

Any active duty, active reserve, ready reserve service member or National Guardsman is entitled to free admission under the program. He or she need only register, either online at www.herosalute.com or in the entrance plaza of a participating park, and show a Department of Defense photo ID. Also included in the offer are members of foreign military forces serving in the coalitions in Iraq or Afghanistan or attached to American units in the U.S. for training.

The Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks include Sea World parks in Orlando, San Diego and San Antonio; Busch Gardens Africa and Adventure Island in Tampa Bay and Busch Gardens Europe and Water Country USA in Williamsburg, Va.; Discovery Cove in Orlando; and Sesame Place near Philadelphia. To learn more about the Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks, visit www.4adventure.com or call toll-free (800)4ADVENTURE.

Resource Corner

There are many resources available to the military family. Here are just a few web sites and phone numbers. Please check them out. If you do not find what you are looking for, please feel free to contact me so that I can help.

Triwest- 1-888-876-9378
WIC- www.hawaiiwic.com
Navy-Marine Corps Society-
808-423-1314
Fleet and Family Support Center- 808-474-1999,
www.greatlifehawii.com
Command web site-
www.nctamspac.navy.mil
IA Family Handbook-
www.ffsp.navy.mil
American Red Cross-
1-877-272-7337



Hawaii Navy News-
www.hawaii.navy.mil

Featured Resource

Military One Source

Military One Source is a program provided by the Department of Defense. It offers support for military families in so many different ways. Here is a list of just some of the items it can help you with. They are also available 24/7!

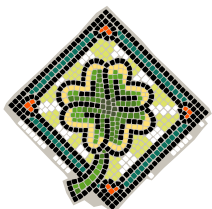
You can get information on:
Child Care
Car Repair
Spousal Employment
Money Management
Relocation
Plumbing
Counseling
Free tax preparation and filing

Plus so much more.
You name it, they can help!

Web site:
www.militaryonesource.com

User ID: military
Password: onesource

Or call 1-800-342-9647



As A Reminder

Please be sure to update if needed: Personal Id's, DEERS, living wills, SGLI, command roster, powers of attorney and page 2. These are important to keep current for yourselves and your families.

Advancement Testing

E6 Exam is on March 1st
E5 Exam is on March 8th
E4 Exam is on March 15th
Make sure to Study, Study, and Study!

Discount Information

While out shopping remember to ask retailers if they give military discounts. You would be amazed at how many retail shops give military discounts, but you do have to ask for it. Most retailers do not advertise their discounts.

Welcome Aboard



ET 2 Charles Anderson Jr. and Family
ET2 Jose Antonetti
IT2 Manuel Brion
IT Terrell Brown
IT2 Keith Chilton
IT Angela Davis
ET2 Ron Dixon and Family
IT Brandon Edwards
IT LeRon Johnson And Family
IT Jason Krahmer
IT2 Edwin Kroschel
EM1 Raymond Lagazon
IT Logan Lyon

OIT Jean Maroney
IT3 Chantree May
S2 Anthony Riss II and Family
IT Max Rivero
YN2 Jodi Salazar
IT1 Christopher Slaughter
IT2 Drew Vu
IT1 Joseph Wert and Family
IT Marshall Williams Jr.
IT Andrew Womeldorf
IT Justin Young
IT2 William Young III

New Babies!

Congratulations to the following:

ASCS Hall & PC1 Samantha Fletcher on twin babies Jurnee & Jon Anthony Hall

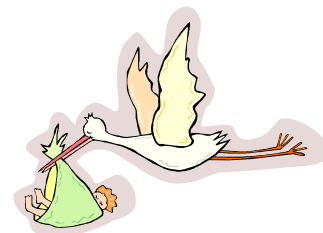
IT3 Goins on your new baby Zharia Goins

IT1 Samantha Corbin & Mr. Dell Corbin on baby Hayden Corbin

YN3& Mrs. Anthony Leonforte on your new arrival Zelan'na Leonforte

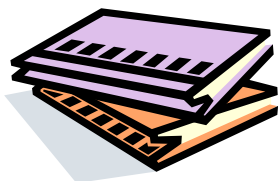
Lt & Mrs. David Perry on the birth of Elijah Perry

IT2 & Mrs. Frank Fontana on your new baby Chloe Fontana



Just had a baby? Please email us your name, spouses' name, baby's name and date of birth to nctamsom-bud@msn.com so it can be posted in our next newsletter!

NMFA now Accepting Applications for Military Spouse Scholarships



The National Military Family Association (NMFA) is accepting applications for NMFA's Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded to spouses of Uniformed Service Members

(active duty, National Guard and Reserve, retirees, and survivors) of any branch or rank to obtain professional certification, to attend post-secondary, or graduate school. Applications will only be accepted online at www.nmfa.org.

To be considered, applications must be submitted

by midnight on the March 15, 2007. Spouses wishing to apply or seeking additional information can visit the NMFA website or contact Ms. Michelle Joyner at CIV: (703) 931-6632 x331 or via Email: publicrelations@nmfa.org

Naval Computer & Telecommunications
Area Master Station, Pacific

Attn: Danielle Filler Ombudsman
500 Center Street
Wahiawa, HI 96786-3050

Phone: 808-664-1204
E-mail: nctamsombud@msn.com



Your Commissary

Local commissaries are offering student scholarships. All you have to do is pick up an application at your local commissary or check out their web site at www.commissaries.com.

Check out these Specials at Pearl Harbor commissary:

Sidewalk Sale March 16th & 17th, 10am to 5 pm.

Mega Case A lot Sale May 4th & 5th in the commissary parking lot.

Speeding at Hickam

In an attempt to crack down on speeding at Hickam, They are reconstituting the Shoe Leather Express. Anyone caught speeding in housing will be walking for 30 days. Everywhere else on base is 1 day walking for every 1 mph over the speed limit. The change will go into effect on 26 Feb.

Forest City Information

Do you have renters insurance or are you interested in getting it? Keep in mind that if you are living in a PPV (Forest City) home, they already insure you up to \$35,000 in renters insurance to all families automatically. If you need more than \$35,000 in renters insurance, then please contact your insurance company to get the coverage.

Movie Night

Your MWR Community Central continues a series of **FREE Family Fun & Movie Nights**. There will be games, bounce houses and free cotton candy and popcorn. Family fun will start in the afternoon, and the movie will follow.

Children under 10 years of age must be supervised by someone 16 years or older.

Movie: Happy Feet (Rated PG)

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2007

Time: Family Fun begins at 6 PM; movie begins at 7 PM

Place: NCTAMS Bowling Field (Wahiawa)